

POSSIBLE CHANGES TO REGULATIONS FOR STRIPED BASS SUSQUEHANNA RIVER

The department is seeking input for the upper boundary of the catch and release area in the Susquehanna River.

The current regulation states that the line is from the boat ramp in Lapidum to Twin Rocks to Toms Wharf. This is somewhat confusing because it is not a straight line and the coordinates do not match with Toms Wharf. The coordinates associated with Toms Wharf describe Lee's Landing Dock Bar, which is a couple hundred yards upstream from Toms Wharf. The Sport Fisheries Advisory Commission has asked the department to create a clear straight line in that area that will help anglers and enforcement officers. The department is considering the four options listed below. Please see the map to see the location of the lines.

Option 1

A readily identifiable line is the I-95 bridge. This is the most obvious and most enforceable line. All of the tidal/nontidal dividing lines are dams or bridges, so this would create consistency with the department's policy.

Option 2

This option draws a line from the Lapidum ramp to Toms Wharf. This is status quo with the landmarks, but eliminates the point at Twin Rocks. These points are easily identifiable from both sides of the river and provide anglers a straight line.

Option 3

This option draws a line from the Lapidum ramp to Lee's Landing. This is basically the bottom of the breakwater, which maintains status quo with coordinates, but eliminates the point at Twin Rocks. These points are easily identifiable from both sides of the river and provide anglers a straight line.

Option 4

This option was requested by an angler. The department has researched this possibility and an issue with this request is that there are no identifiable points or obvious landmarks on either river bank. This could lead to confusion since someone could very easily be off by 50 to 100 yards and not know it.